User Administration Report

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User Administration Head

User Statistics

In the twenty years since the commissioning of the NSLS, its user community continues to be strong and the largest in the BES complex. During the past year, 2413 badged users performed experiments onsite, 30% of them (719 users) for the first time.

For users who conducted experiments at the NSLS facility during the year, 34% indicated their primary field of research as materials sciences, 39% as biological/life sciences, 8% chemical sciences, 8% geosciences and ecology, 5% applied science and engineering, and 6% optical/nuclear/general physics. While changes in the number of users in a particular field of science are generally insignificant from year to year, there was a moderate increase in the number of geosciences and ecology users from last year. A moderate decrease was noticed in the fields of high energy physics and nuclear physics, and the number of biology/life sciences users decreased slightly.

While the number of users in particular fields of science is indicative of *who* is using the facility, it does not show *how* the facility is used. Since 1999, the NSLS has reported statistical data based on actual usage of the facility. This information is extracted from beam time used by each of the 1103 experiments performed in FY02. This year, more than 44% of the beam time used was utilized by experiments conducted in the field of materials sciences. The remaining beam time was utilized by optical/nuclear/general physics (19%), biological and life sciences (15%), chemical sciences (9%), geosciences/ecology (8%), applied science and engineering (3%) and other fields of research (2%). The primary difference in the number of users versus the amount of beam time utilized for a given field of research is explained by the fact that materials sciences experiments utilize more beam time than other experiments. In addition, there are generally a lower number of experimenters per experiment, especially in comparison to biological/life sciences experiments.

We can also determine the primary source of user funding based on beam time usage at the facility. During this year, experiments funded by the Department of Energy's Office of Science's Basic Energy Sciences (DOE/BES) utilized 34% of the facility's beam time. Other programs in the DOE complex utilized an additional 6% of the beam time. Facility usage by other *primary sources* of user support included NSF (14%), NIH (10%), and Industry (12%).

Over 65% of our users are affiliated with U.S. and foreign academic institutions. Other affiliations include BNL employees who are facility users (10%), other DOE contractor employees (3%), other federal agencies (5%), industry (7%), and other (10%).

The 2413 users who visited our facility in FY02 are affiliated with 416 unique U.S. and foreign institutions including 255 academic institutions, 69 industrial institutions, 32 federal government agencies, 26 non-governmental laboratories, and 34 other institutions.

Faculty members at universities or colleges, professional staff and scientists at private, national or industrial laboratories account for the greatest population of users (38%), followed by graduate students (33%), postdoctoral research associates (21%), undergraduate students (4%), and retired, self-employed or other (4%).

Organization

As User Administrator, I have several new projects this year including design of an online system to administer proposals, safety approval forms and a beamline-scheduling program. Brian Bindert joined our staff in late 2002 to work on development of this project and several other database application projects to follow. Another new task initiated this year involves user administration and database support for the Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN). Nearly all

User Administration staff members will be working steadily over the next few months to ensure that users who wish to perform nanoscience research are registered, badged and trained as quickly and efficiently as their counterparts at the NSLS facility. Liz Flynn's responsibilities will be shared equally among NSLS and CFN tasks. Her replacement on the registration desk is anticipated in late winter. Lydia Rogers, the Deputy User Administrator, has been very busy coordinating the Users' Meeting scheduled for May, and Gretchen Cisco is assisting with proposal coordination for the CFN, development of the online proposal system, and is very busy keeping up with policy and procedural modifications related to the proposal program.

Security Compliance

As of the end of FY02, the NSLS was instructed to strictly adhere to Department of Energy Notice 142.1 "Unclassified Foreign Visits and Assignments." As a result, our users were notified of new site access policies and requirements. Though the NSLS had hoped to see little disruption in our programs and use of the facility, we have found that several users encountered problems accessing the site. Complications resulted primarily from inappropriate visa and INS documentation and the user's failure to secure visit approval prior to arrival at BNL. For more information regarding site access policies and procedures, please visit the NSLS website.

DIAL 344-USER FOR NSLS USER ADMINISTRATION

In our goal to facilitate user access to the National Synchrotron Light Source at Brookhaven National Laboratory, you may now dial (631) 344-USER to reach the NSLS User Administration Office, or simply Ext. **USER** while onsite. The old number (631) 344-7976 will remain in service as a rollover number. If you have questions regarding facility access, registration, user training, or proposals, please phone our office at (631) 344-USER and we'll be happy to assist you.